

**CLAIMS:**

1. A flexible insulation sheet-like material arrangement comprising at least first and second flexible insulation sheets installed in a coplanar relationship, said first and second insulation sheets having a thickness  $W1$ , and an overlap joint between said first and second insulation sheets, said overlap joint having a thickness  $W2$  substantially equal to or less than the thickness  $W1$  of said first and second sheets.
2. A flexible insulation sheet-like material arrangement as defined in claim 1, wherein said first and second insulation sheets have overlapping portions of reduced thicknesses at said overlap joint.
3. A flexible insulation sheet-like material arrangement as defined in claim 1, wherein said first and second insulation sheets have adjoining side portions of reduced thicknesses, and wherein a layer of insulation material extends over both said adjoining side portions to form said overlap joint.
4. A flexible insulation sheet-like material arrangement as defined in claim 1, wherein said first and second insulation sheets have adjoining side portions of reduced thicknesses.
5. A flexible insulation sheet-like material arrangement as defined in claim 4, wherein each of said first and second insulation sheets includes a moisture barrier.
6. A flexible insulation sheet-like material arrangement as defined in claim 5, wherein said first and second insulation sheets are at least partly made of bituminous material.
7. A flexible insulation sheet-like material arrangement as defined in claim 4, wherein said first and second insulation sheets are at least partly made of a sound insulation material.

8. A flexible insulation sheet-like material arrangement as defined in claim 4, wherein each of said first and second insulation sheets has a cross-sectional profile selected from a group consisting of: a Z-shape profile, a hat-shaped profile and an inverted hat-shaped profile.
9. A flexible insulation sheet-like material arrangement as defined in claim 4, wherein measuring indicia are provided on a top surface of said first and second insulation sheets.
10. A flexible insulation sheet-like material arrangement as defined in claim 4, wherein a peel-off film at least partly covers a surface of said first and second insulation sheets.
11. A flexible insulation sheet-like material arrangement as defined in claim 10, wherein each of said first and second insulation sheets has an adhesive surface, said adhesive surface being covered by said peel-off film.
12. A flexible insulation sheet-like material arrangement as defined in claim 11, wherein said adhesive surface is provided as a pattern of adhesive points distributed on at least one of a top and a bottom surface of the first and second insulation sheets.
13. A flexible insulation sheet-like material arrangement as defined in claim 11, wherein said adhesive surface is provided on said adjoining side portions of said first and second insulation sheets only.
14. A flexible insulation sheet-like material arrangement as defined in claim 1, wherein an upwardly facing depression is formed in one of said first and second insulation sheets along one side of said overlap joint.
15. A flexible insulation sheet-like material arrangement as defined in claim 1, wherein said first and second insulation sheets are respectively securely mounted underneath first and second floor covering members, and wherein each of said first and second insulation sheets has an upwardly facing overlapping portion and a downwardly facing overlapping portion, said upwardly facing overlapping

portion extending laterally outwardly from one side of said first and second floor covering members.

16. A flexible insulation membrane comprising a strip of insulation material adapted to be unrolled on a support surface, the strip of insulation material having longitudinal side edges of reduced thicknesses adapted to cooperate with adjoining longitudinal side edges of similar flexible membranes in forming free-bump overlap joints at the junction of adjacent insulation membranes.

17. A flexible insulation membrane as defined in claim 16, wherein each of said strip of insulation material includes a moisture barrier.

18. A flexible insulation membrane as defined in claim 17, wherein said strip of insulation material is at least partly made of bituminous material.

19. A flexible insulation membrane as defined in claim 16, wherein said strip of insulation material has a cross-sectional profile selected from a group consisting of: a Z-shape profile, a hat-shaped profile and an inverted hat-shaped profile.

20. A flexible insulation membrane arrangement as defined in claim 16, wherein measuring indicia are provided on a top surface of said strip of insulation material.

21. A flexible insulation membrane as defined in claim 16, wherein said strip of insulation material has a sticky surface covered by a removable film.

22. A flexible insulation membrane as defined in claim 21, wherein said sticky surface has spaced-apart adhesive points.

23. A flexible insulation membrane as defined in claim 16, wherein said strip of insulation material is pre-assembled underneath a floor covering member, and wherein one of said longitudinal side portions of reduced thickness projects laterally outwardly from said floor covering member.

24. A moisture barrier underlayment adapted to be installed on a subfloor to provide a substantially flat and level surface for receiving floor covering, comprising at least first and second strips of moisture barrier membranes laid down one next to the other in a coplanar relationship, said first and second strips having a thickness  $W1$ , and an overlap joint between said first and second strips, said overlap joint having a thickness  $W2$  substantially equal to or less than  $W1$  and providing a free-bump transition between said first and second strips while preventing straight-through moisture infiltration from the subfloor to the floor covering.

25. A moisture barrier underlayment as defined in claim 24, further comprising an intermediate layer of substantially rigid floor members adapted to be installed next to one another in a coplanar relationship atop of said strips of moisture barrier membranes for receiving the floor covering.

26. A moisture barrier underlayment as defined in claim 25, wherein said rigid floor members are spaced from one another to accommodate expansion and contraction movements of the floor covering.

27. A moisture barrier underlayment as defined in claim 25, wherein said floor members have softened bottom edges to prevent puncturing of the moisture barrier membranes.

28. A moisture barrier underlayment as defined in claim 24, wherein said first and second strips of moisture barrier membrane have adjoining side portions of reduced thicknesses.

29. A moisture barrier underlayment as defined in claim 25, wherein longitudinal grooves are defined in said floor members to accommodate expansion and contraction movements.

30. A moisture barrier underlayment as defined in claim 29, wherein said longitudinal grooves include peripheral grooves defined along the side edge portions of the floor members to provide flexible abutting fingers between the floor members.

31. A moisture barrier underlayment as defined in claim 29, wherein said longitudinal grooves include side-by-side grooves extending in succession in opposite directions from a top surface and a bottom surface of the floor members to provide a bellows formation in each of said floor members as a intra-floor member expansion/contraction accommodation means.

32. A moisture barrier underlayment as defined in claim 25, wherein spring means are provided between adjacent floor members to accommodate contraction and expansion movements.

33. A floor arrangement adapted to be installed over a subfloor, comprising flexible flooring members adapted to be laid one next to the other in a coplanar relationship over the subfloor, said flexible flooring members having a thickness W1, and an overlap joint between each pair of adjacent flexible flooring members, said overlap joint having a thickness W2 substantially equal to or less than W1 and providing a free-bump transition between said flexible flooring members.

34. A floor arrangement as defined in claim 33, wherein said flexible flooring members are provided as finish floor covering installed on an underlayment.

35. A floor arrangement as defined in claim 34, wherein said finish floor covering includes rolls of vinyl floor covering.

36. A floor arrangement as defined in claim 34, wherein said underlayment comprises at least first and second strips of moisture barrier membranes laid down one next to the other in a coplanar relationship, said first and second strips of moisture barrier membranes having a thickness W3, and an overlap joint between said first and second strips of moisture barrier membranes, said overlap joint having a thickness W4 substantially equal to or less than W3 and providing a free-bump transition between said first and second strips of moisture barrier membranes while preventing straight-through moisture infiltration from the subfloor to the finish floor covering.

37. A floor arrangement as defined in claim 33, wherein said rolls of flexible flooring members have adjoining side portions of reduced thicknesses and are provided as rolls of moisture barrier membranes.
38. A floor arrangement as defined in claim 37, further comprising moisture barrier corner capping members adapted to be sealingly joint to the moisture barrier membranes laid on the subfloor in order to seal room corners, each moisture barrier corner capping member being made of a thin sheet-like impermeable material and having a wall panel and a floor panel, the floor panel being overlap by at least one of said moisture barrier membranes.
39. A floor arrangement as defined in claim 38, wherein said moisture barrier corner capping members are made of a thermally weldable material.
40. A floor arrangement as defined in claim 38, further comprising a baseboard moisture barrier backing adapted to be installed at the junction of a wall and a floor of a room, the baseboard moisture barrier backing comprising a thin sheet-like impermeable body having a wall panel and a floor panel extending from said wall panel, said floor panel being in sealingly overlapping engagement with at least one of said moisture barrier membranes.
41. A moisture barrier corner capping member adapted to be installed at the junction of at least two walls and a floor of a room to cooperate with a moisture barrier underlayment, comprising a thin sheet-like impermeable body pre-formed to generally match the corner to be sealed, the sheet-like impermeable body having a wall panel and a floor panel extending from said wall panel, said floor panel being adapted to be placed in sealingly overlapping relationship with the moisture barrier underlayment and wherein said wall panel includes at least first and second wall sections adapted to extend over respective walls extending from the room corner.
42. A moisture barrier corner capping member as defined in claim 41, wherein said thin sheet-like impermeable body is made of a thermally sealable film material.

43. A moisture barrier protrusion capping member adapted to be installed about a protrusion extending from a floor to cooperate with a moisture barrier underlayment laid on the floor, said moisture barrier protrusion capping member having a thin sheet-like impermeable body adapted to be fitted over the protrusion, said thin-sheet like impermeable body having a wall portion and a floor portion extending from said wall portion, said wall portion being adapted to extend over the protrusion while the floor portion offers an upwardly facing surface to be placed in sealingly overlapping relationship with the moisture barrier underlayment.